

REMARKS

The application includes claims 1-30 prior to entering this amendment.

The examiner rejects claims 1, 5, 11, 15 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

The examiner rejects claims 1, 5-6, 8-9, 11, 15-16, 18-19, 21, 25-26, and 28-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young et al. (U.S. Patent 6,600,754) in view of Morris et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0046381) and Ho et al. (U.S. Patent 7,039,032).

The examiner rejects claims 2, 7, 10, 12, 17, 20, 22, 27, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young in view of Morris and Ho in further view of Kamel et al. (U.S. Patent 6,374,103).

The examiner rejects claims 3, 4, 13-14, and 23-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young in view of Morris and Ho with Kamel in further view of Cohen (U.S. Patent 6,332,153).

The applicant amends claims 1, 5, 11, 15, 21, and 25, and cancels claims 3, 8, 13, 18, 23, and 28 without prejudice.

The application remains with claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-12, 14-17, 19-22, 24-27, and 29-30 after entering this amendment.

The applicant adds no new matter and request reconsideration.

Claim Rejections Under § 112

The examiner rejects claims 1, 5, 11, 15, and 25 as failing to comply with the written description requirement. While the applicant disagrees with the examiner's assessment, it amends the claims to obviate the examiner's rejection and further prosecution.

Claim Rejections Under § 103

Claim 1 recites *wherein the schedule provides for exchanging data with only the second peripheral device during a second time window, the second time window alternating with the first time window according to a periodicity and wherein the processor is further adapted to encode data about the periodicity in the multi-poll scheduling frame.*

The examiner acknowledges that none of Young, Morris, Ho, or Kamel discloses the recited limitations but alleges Cohen provides the missing link. According to the examiner, Cohen "teaches exchanging data only with a second device during a predetermined time

period and subsequently alternating communication with the second device and the first device periodically while updating identifying the current transmitting device.”¹

Cohen discloses a system and method for multi-media half-duplex conferencing in a computer network comprising a plurality of stations and a control server.² In Cohen, the method receives a packet from a first station, identifies the first station as the transmitting station, blocks packets from other stations, and then repeats the receiving, identifying, and blocking for a second station.³ The Cohen method further discloses visually indicating to the users which user is *utilizing* the station that is the transmitting station by transmitting a packet including a “user identification from the first station to the control server, adding the user identification to a participants list...and storing the current identification with an indication which station is the current transmitting user....”⁴

Although Cohen discloses blocking packets from other stations while receiving packets from one station, it does not appear to disclose that *the schedule itself provides for exchanging data with only the second peripheral device during a second time window, the second time window alternating with the first time window* as required by the claims. The examiner identifies the recited schedule as being disclosed by Ho multipoll frame.⁵ But Ho’s multipoll frame does not provide for *the second time window alternating with the first time window according to a periodicity* where the processor encodes *data about the periodicity in the multi-poll scheduling frame*. That is, Cohen’s packet blocking is not disclosed as being part of any schedule let alone the particular schedule recited in the claims. Moreover, the combination of Cohen’s packet blocking and station identification with Ho’s multipoll frame does not disclose that *the second time window alternates with the first time window according to a periodicity* where that periodicity is encoded in a scheduling frame as is required by the claims.

¹ Office action dated June 18, 2007, page 7.

² Cohen, abstract.

³ Cohen, column 2, lines 2-16.

⁴ Cohen, column 2, lines 29-39.

⁵ Office action dated June 18, 2007, page 4.

Conclusion

The applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of all remaining claims. The applicant encourages the examiner to telephone the undersigned at (503) 224-2170 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Customer No. 46404

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graciela G. Cowger', is written over a horizontal line.

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